

## THE FARM LIFE SCHOOL.

The activity of the farmer for the education of his children in a manner that will mean for a better farm life in North Carolina is a most proper activity, and with it is to come a benefit not alone to the farmer and his home life, but to the State as well.

North Carolina has great agricultural interests, and these are being developed and expanded in a most healthy way. Without doubt the past ten years have been the best ten years in the progress of agricultural development in North Carolina. But the best is yet to come, for the farmer, the farmers' son and the farmers' daughter, are doing advanced work, because education is being applied to agriculture.

No act of greater importance to the agricultural interests of the State, except perhaps the act establishing the Agricultural and Mechanical College, has been passed than that which provides for the establishment of Farm Life Schools in North Carolina. That provision was made for the establishment of but ten of these in the first year was wise, for by means of this provision a rivalry was made among the one hundred counties of the State, and this rivalry will mean that the purposes and aims of the Farm Life School will be better presented to the State.

For these Farm Life Schools the State gives an appropriation of \$2,500 and any county or township to obtain these must raise, by taxation or otherwise, \$2,500 additional, while the community that obtains the location of the school in any county must provide dormitories for the students, a barn and a dairy, and not less than twenty-five acres of land for the school grounds and the school farm. This means that to obtain State aid the counties and the communities must help also, and the incentive is a most proper one. It means that to obtain any good result there must be individual effort as applied to counties, to townships and to communities. This is a proper thing, for those places that will not help themselves are not deserving of help.

This morning at 10:30 in the court house in Raleigh there is to be a meeting in the interest of a Farm Life School for Wake county. It is a matter that deserves the greatest consideration of the people. One of these schools should be established in this county, for it will be of real benefit to the county. To have such a school depends upon the people. If they do not speak there will be no such school and to drop into popular phraseology "it is up to the people." Through the Farmers' Union the question is presented, and if Wake county wants to do the right thing it will get behind the movement good and strong. That is the way to get results, and the results that are aimed at are for the betterment of Wake county, a matter in which all of its citizens have the deepest interest.

Raleigh, Goldsboro and Gastonia have recently had as visitors many of the soldiers of the North Carolina National Guard. And in each place the young men made not alone fine records as target experts, but took first honors in general deportment. The North Carolina National Guard is composed of a fine lot of men and the State is justly proud of its military.

"Champ Clark has made no errors," declares one of the papers. And he is also to be credited in the columns for runs, hits, put outs and assists as "Uncle Joe" will unwillingly testify.

With the Democratic Secretary of War off the job it will be easier for the Republican political family in the cabinet to talk it over.

It is up to the Senate Republicans good and strong now. The farmers free list bill with 127 majority in the House has come over to keep company with the reciprocity bill. Their passage means big dents in the tariff wall.

While the spelling of Juarez would not indicate it, yet the pronunciation is War-rez. And Sherman declared "war is hell."

General Navarro also changed his mind. His talk of death before surrender ended in his eating quail peaceably out of Madero's hand.

## THE FARMERS' FREE LIST.

The Farmers' Free List bill, which has passed the House on a solid Democratic vote and with a majority of 127, the vote being 306 for, and 109 against, has for its purpose the giving of cheaper agricultural implements to the farmers, cheaper breads and meats to the dwellers in the cities. It has been passed by the Democratic House in fulfillment of the Democratic pledge to the people to enact such legislation as will put an end to the high cost of living.

In the House the Republicans sought to block the passage of the bill and piled on amendment after amendment, eighty-three of these being voted down before the final overwhelming vote which sent it to the Senate without any amendment. That the "stand-pat" Republicans in the Senate will fight it is but to be expected, and the debate on it is necessarily therefore to be one of the long-drawn-out kind.

The provisions of the bill are that there can be imported into the United States, exempt from duty, the following articles:

Plows, tooth and disc harrows, headers, harvesters, reapers, agricultural drills and planters, mowers, horse-rakes, cultivators, threshing machines and cotton gins, farm wagons and farm carts and all other agricultural implements of any description, whether specifically mentioned herein or not, whether in whole or in parts, including repair parts.

Bagging for cotton, gunny cloth and all similar fabrics, materials or coverings, suitable for covering and baling cotton, composed in whole or in part of jute, jute butts, hemp, flax, seg, Russian seg, New Zealand tow, Norwegian tow, aloë, mill waste, cotton tares, or any other materials or fibres suitable for covering cotton; and burlaps and bags or sacks composed wholly or in part of jute or burlaps for sacking agricultural products.

Hoop or band iron, or hoop or band steel, cut to lengths, punched or not punched, or wholly or partly manufactured into hoops or ties, coated or not coated with paint or any other preparation, with or without buckles or fastenings, for baling cotton or any other commodity; and wire for baling hay, straw and other agricultural products.

Grain, buff, split and rough sole leather, band, bend or belting leather, boots and shoes, made wholly or in chief value of leather made from cattle hides and cattle skins of whatever weight of cattle of the bovine species, including calfskins and harness, saddles and saddlery in sets or in parts, finished or unfinished, composed wholly or in chief value of leather; and leather cut into shoe uppers or vamps or other forms suitable for conversion into manufactured articles.

Barbed fence wire, wire rods, wire strands or wire rope, wire woven or manufactured for wire fencing and other kinds of wire suitable for fencing, including wire staples.

Beef, veal, mutton, lamb, pork, and meats of all kinds, fresh, salted, pickled, dried, smoked, dressed or undressed, prepared or preserved in any manner, bacon, hams, shoulders, lard, lard compounds and lard substitutes, and sausage and sausage meats.

Buckwheat flour, corn meal, wheat flour and semolina, rye flour, bran, middlings and other offals of grain, oatmeal and rolled oats and all prepared cereal foods; and biscuits, bread, wafers and similar articles not sweetened.

Timber, hewn, sided or squared, round timber, used for spars in building wharves, shingles, laths, fencing posts, sawed boards, planks, deals and other lumber, rough or dressed, except boards, planks, deals and other lumber, or lignum vitae, lance wood, ebony, box, grenadillo, mahogany, rosewood, satinwood, and all other cabinet woods.

Sewing machines and all parts thereof. Salt, whether in bulk or in bags, sacks, barrels or other packages.

The Farm Life School idea has also caught on in Wake. It is an idea that has sound reason in it, and Wake county will do well to have one of the schools.

## COUNT ON WAKE COUNTY.

No proposition ever presented to a considerable number of the counties of North Carolina has been received with any greater enthusiasm than that of the Central Highway of 460 miles to extend from Beaufort harbor to the Tennessee line. So great is the enthusiasm in Eastern North Carolina that the men behind the movement, realizing in the inception of the work that a hard task was set out for them, are more than encouraged and now make prediction that the Central Highway will be constructed, if the West shows a similar spirit to the East.

For one week Chairman Varner and other members of the Highway Board of Trustees have been on a tour of eastern North Carolina, great meetings, full of enthusiasm, having been held in six counties, these at Morehead City, New Bern, Kinston, Goldsboro, Smithfield and Raleigh. In each county the good roads advocates have been in evidence, the spirit manifested being for a rapid construction of the highway.

The last meeting of the week was held in Raleigh yesterday, and it was a meeting largely attended. The reports from eastern North Carolina were of the most enthusiastic kind, and the expressions at the meeting here were in line with these. Unless all signs fail Wake county will be found one of the foremost counties in the construction of the highway. The movement started here and having taken up the work Wake county will not let loose until it sees it an accomplished fact.

The message, then, that Wake county sends out to the eighteen counties connected with it in this great undertaking is one of good cheer. It calls upon all of these for a united effort and for the fullest co-operation, realizing that the success of the movement depends upon each of the nineteen counties along the route. There is no need to emphasize the value of good roads for that is a proposition far advanced beyond the stage of academic discussion. All North Carolina will get from the Central Highway a reflex action in behalf of good roads and so along with the nineteen counties directly on the route all the other counties of the State are concerned. Its success will be of advantage to good roads endeavor in every county, and realizing this the men who are placing their best endeavors in the work will push on, knowing that the completion of the Central Highway will be of value to all North Carolina.

Concerning the great work to be done, the New Bern Journal well says: "The greeting of those coming here Tuesday in the interest of the Great Central Highway project, from the ocean to the Tennessee line, and the meeting of those of Craven county to learn more of this highway, of what was required of the people of this county to make it a success, was an inspiration for this section in the matter of good roads.

"The first consideration of this Central Highway, was its greatness, 460 miles. It could be built, but it would take time. The first two days meetings at the eastern end, Beaufort, Morehead City and New Bern has greatly lessened the look of the work that appeared so great. As the cars proceed on their journey westward, the inspiration promises to increase, so that when the trip is completed, when each county learns what it must do, it will only need the word "go," to start road building in each county, so that the probability is that 30 days from July 4th, next will see the Central Highway a reality. Each county will make good its own roads joining the next county, so that when the month is ended, as the men in every county rise up from their labors at the county lines, there will stretch out throughout North Carolina this splendid highway, ready for the public use. Now is the time for each county, within itself, to prepare to enter the race for the 30 days completion of this highway within its territory and so have the entire highway ready at the same hour."

If Diaz wants to know how to settle that little affair in Mexico, he might read the commencement orations which are now due.

Wake county is to have two good things presented for its consideration on Saturday in the court house. One is the Farm Life School and the other is the Central Highway. Let's have them both.

Good roads are fore-runners of prosperity to the farmers. They benefit with every mile that is constructed. Texas believes in bringing them up in the State. It is increasing its population by getting babies by the carload and thus adds to the home product.

Eastern North Carolina is going after prosperity with all its might. Not alone is it working for good roads, but it is in the campaign for the inland waterway.

The Wake County Board of Commissioners should see to it that the stretch of the Central Highway through Wake county is the best along the route.

Never put off till tomorrow what you should do today. This is a suggestion to President Diaz from Provisional President Madero in re the matter of a resignation.

When the fly butts up against the window screen proposition he will carry his germ-laden feet to the screenless house. Keep out the flies and keep out disease.

Iredell county shows that it is a firm believer in good roads. A majority of 1,087 in an election for a \$400,000 bond issue is proof that it is going to have good roads.

And Lenoir also did itself proud in rolling the ball for the Central Highway. It was a big and enthusiastic meeting at Kinston.

The way things are going on in North Carolina now indicates that we will be entitled to the top place in the percentage column of progress.

Hog Clubs and Else—the Articles in the News and Observer With Reference to Farmers Welfare.

To the Editor:

You are making a fine paper, and one of great value to the farmer as well as to others. It ought to be in the hands of every tiller of the soil. We are past the date when farmers are to be called "clod hoppers." Of all the professions, there are none more honorable, and few more remunerative than that of the intelligent planter. One may not amass such a great fortune farming as in speculation, yet a far greater number of people are guaranteed a good living and larger liberty by engaging in tilling the soil than in any other employment.

I felt like giving a good old-fashioned camp meeting Amen! to your editorial a few days ago on the subject "Gold Dust in the Soil." There was much truth in all you said. There is lots of gold in North Carolina soil, where formerly people considered there was none. Indeed, they considered much of our soil "poverty stricken." But we have learned to go deeper into the earth and deeper into our own brain, and with a happy admixture of brain and brawn wonderful results have been brought to the surface. With corn crops increasing in the number of bushels per acre, and cotton sailing toward the moon, with prices of stock and cattle flying higher than a kite, and with hog values high in the air, there is no wonder that land values increase while you sleep.

If your correspondent had invested a spare \$1,000 in lands twenty years ago, he might now be worth a cool five or ten thousand, simply by the natural increase in land values. And land will be no cheaper. "The Lord has quit making land, but he keeps on making people," and he turns the eyes of other sections to our good Southland. My advice to young men is, if you have no land, buy some. If you have land, don't sell unless you have too much. By the way, forty acres, a few years ago, means eighty acres now, for subsoiling has discovered that the sub-acre is the better acre of the two.

I saw some land dynamited recently for farming purposes. I do not know as to expense. But I feel sure that for planting young orchards, nothing could do near so well.

But I started to write about hog clubs. I think it a fine idea. Most children like pets any way. What more profitable pet than a good Berkshire pig? Then, the rivalry stimulated by the club would be of inestimable value to the young people. Then toward the Christmas holidays, when the corn is all in the lot, and a nice fat pig has been slaughtered, when the baked yams are soft and sugary, and pumpkin pies are galore, what could so rejuvenate an old man as an old-time corn-shucking? If he did not make the welkin ring with the old-time corn-shucking? If he did least feel like singing himself hoarse on some such song as this: "Ho for Carolina. That's the land for me!"

F. L. TOWNSEND.  
Leaksville, N. C., May 13.